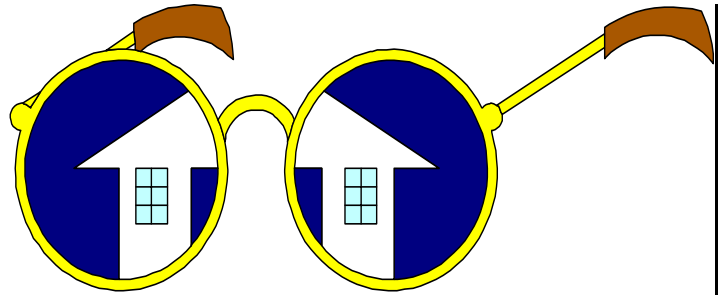


Super Sentinel



November, 2004

Neighborhood Watch Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 3

Terri's Tidbits

The G.A.I.N. events are over for another year. This year we had 146 parties that were registered and received visits from our police specialty units. Superstition groups had everything from potlucks to magicians, bands to karaoke, ice cream to chili contests. Again this year, I had the privilege to accompany McGruff. It always amazes me when I see the reaction of the children to McGruff's arrival.



It seems that no matter how little they are they know McGruff, the crime fighting dog. Comments from the Neighborhood Watch captains that have sent in their attendance sheets have been positive and it appears that a good time was had by all!!

No matter how good an event appears, it can always be better and G.A.I.N. is no exception. Any suggestions that you may have that would help improve both our G.A.I. N. events and the G.A.I. N. Kick-Off would be greatly appreciated. Tell us what you liked and what you did not like, what we did right and what you feel we could do better.

We have already addressed one issue that was brought up this year. A few captains said that they were

not given enough notice on the date and could not plan a really good event on such short notice. So, mark October 8th, 2005, on your calendars for your G.A.I.N. event! We can't control the weather, school or church functions, but the second Saturday in October appears to have fewest conflicts. So, unless we run into a last minute problem, you can count on that date for your G.A.I.N. event for 2005.

Plan on attending the fall Captain's meeting to be held on December 7, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium at the Mesa Public Safety building, 3260 N. 40th St. This will be a joint meeting with the other patrol districts. The Neighborhood Watch coordinators will sponsor the Neighborhood Ambassador Academy program to be presented by the staff of the Arizona State Registrar of Contractors office. This program will be open to your friends and neighbors. However, you will be expected to RSVP so that we can make sure there will be material available to all attendees. Just call me at 644-3692. This is a very good program and the information you are given can save you \$\$\$\$\$ if you are in need of someone to do any type of repair or maintenance work around your home.

Make sure you mark January 22, 2005, on your calendar, then call your Neighborhood Outreach coordinator to reserve your seat at their annual conference. This year the conference's theme is "Recipes for Success". If your neighborhood had a really successful event or community project that you felt was an outstanding accomplishment,

either in uniting the residents or making some sort of positive change to the community consider applying for a Neighborhood award next year. The Neighborhood Outreach Conference not only gives neighborhood representatives the opportunity to learn about the valuable programs available for communities, but also gives them a chance to be recognized for their efforts.

Watch the newspapers and TV for up coming H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) VIN etching events. Our next scheduled event is December 16, 2004, 3:00 to 6:00 PM. This will be held in the Target parking lot at 1135 S. Gilbert Road. Let us give you one more layer of protection against auto theft. Further events will be announced after the first of the year.

Important Telephone Numbers



Terri Teten 644-3692
Superstition Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Emergency or Crime in Progress....
911

Police Non-Emergency... 644-2211
Community Relations Unit.....
.....644-2300
Community Relations FAX
.....644-2800
Fraud Alert Hotline.....644-2345
Narcotics Hotline 644-6272
Graffiti Hotline.....644-3083
Gang Hotline.....644-4264
Silent Witness.....1-800-343-TIPS

The Law and Motorized Recreational Vehicles

Do you remember when a toy was just a toy? When your child used imagination instead of a remote control to play for hours? Technology has not only changed the way we play, but the toys we play with in everything from games to transportation. It is not the size that matters anymore; it is the speed in which it operates. Motorized skateboards have replaced the foot-powered scooter. The "pocket bike" has replaced the BMX. The problem arises when the small, fast toys our children are asking for are not really toys, but miniature versions of vehicles that have the potential to put our children's safety and lives at risk.

The motorized recreational vehicle market has seen numerous changes in the last 25 years. New laws have been enacted to assist law enforcement meet public demand for the safety of the rider while attempting to insure the rights of the other community residents. Each community has addressed these vehicles in its own way, including Mesa. Here is a thumbnail sketch of each vehicle and the law governing its use:

Non-Motorized:

Foot Scooter – Must obey all pedestrian laws. (ARS Title 28-791 to 797)

Bicycle – Must obey all traffic laws (ARS Title 28-101.6)

Motorized:

Off-Road Recreational Vehicle (ATV) – primarily for off-road use. Must meet all requirements of a motor vehicle if it is operated on a public roadway (ARS 28-101.35).

Moped – a bicycle that is equipped with a helper motor. Must have pedals and be capable of operating as a bicycle. Must be registered and operator must have valid driver's license if operated on public roadway (ARS 28-100.28).

Motor Driven Cycle (motorcycles and all motor scooters producing no more than five hp, pocket bikes) – Must meet the all motorcycle requirements (ARS 28-101.29).

Motorized Skateboard – does not require registration or drivers license, but must obey all traffic laws and Mesa City Code while on the public highway (ARS 28-101.30ii, MCC10-1-18).

Motorcycle – a motor vehicle that has a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and that is designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground (ARS 28-101.32).

Motor Vehicle – is either, a self-propelled vehicle or a vehicle that operates on motor vehicle fuel, excluding a motorized wheelchair or a motorized skateboard (ARS 101.30).

Laws governing Arizona recreational vehicles have been enacted with operator safety in mind and additional conditions have been added when the operator is a minor, as with the motorized skateboards. But nothing can protect the safety of our children as well as knowledge of the rules of safety, obeying the traffic laws and being a defensive "rider". Many times the rider of a recreational vehicle is injured because the size of the vehicle they are riding is smaller and harder to see or they get into the "blind spot" of a vehicle next to them. The rider needs to be doubly alert for all changes in traffic flow, especially at corners, lights, driveways, etc. where they will be encountering other vehicles going in different directions. One small error on the part of the rider, a rider who is not familiar with the traffic laws or the rider who is not watching the other vehicles in the roadway can result in serious consequences. The rider needs to remember they have only the protection of a helmet and not the steel enclosure or the air bags afforded the driver of a car or truck. If it becomes a contest of who goes first the rider will probably lose every time.

Parents need to stress to their children who ride recreational vehicles that anytime a vehicle, of any type, is in the roadway it is not a toy, regardless of size of the vehicle or the age of operator. Operation of a recreational vehicle in the roadway is not a game but a serious responsibility. The consequences of not taking this responsibility seriously are too difficult to even imagine. However, just because they are not toys does not mean the rider can't have fun on them. Riding a recreational vehicle can be a lot of fun when done safely, responsibly and within the laws governing its use.

H.E.A.T. Event (V.I.N. Etching) (Help Eliminate Auto Theft)

Weather permitting

Where: TARGET
1135 S. Gilbert Road

When: December 16, 2004
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

With questions call Holly Hosac 644-2033

Arizona Registrar of Contractors
602-542-1525 www.azroc.gov



**CITY OF
MESA**

Great People, Quality Service!

Mesa Police Department
Terri Teten, CPS
Crime Prevention Unit
130 North Robson Street
Mesa, AZ 85201-6697
terri.teten@cityofmesa.org

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SAVE YOUR HOLIDAY-



**PUT PACKAGES IN
YOUR LOCKED TRUNK
WHILE SHOPPING!!!!**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 11 – VETERAN'S DAY, CITY OFFICES CLOSED**
25-26 – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY, CITY OFFICES CLOSED

DECEMBER

- 7 – 6:30PM TO 8:30PM – Fall Captain's meeting – Neighborhood Ambassador Academy, Mesa Public Safety Training Facility, 3260 N. 40th St. Arizona Registrar of Contractors. Tell your neighbors! Bring your Friends!! Must RSVP call Terri @644-3692**
16 – 3PM TO 6PM – H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) V.I.N. Etching—Target Store, 1135 S. Gilbert Road
24 – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY, CITY OFFICES CLOSED
30 – NEW YEARS HOLIDAY, CITY OFFICES CLOSED

JANUARY

- 17 – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY, CITY OFFICES CLOSED**
22 – 7:30AM TO 1PM – Neighborhood Outreach Conference—Red Mountain Multigenerational Facility, 7340 E. Adobe. Contact your area Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator for details.

FEBRUARY

- 2 – 5:00PM TO 9:30PM – R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense– 1st session) (see location below)**
5 – 8:00AM TO 12:30PM – R.A.D. (Rape Aggression Defense –2nd session) Mesa Senior Center, 260 N. Macdonald. R.A.D. is a 9 -hour training. *The student must attend both 4 1/2 hour sessions.* Register through the Mesa Parks — 480-644-4449 or call Terri @ 644-3692 for details.